

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO  
CHICAGO 37 • ILLINOIS  
DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

February 26, 1951

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

Thank you for your letter of February 20.

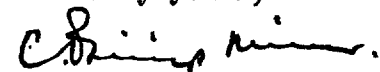
Since rabbits are very expensive, it might be better to measure the relative toxicity of your strains by determining the LD<sub>50</sub> in mice. You would probably want to do this by intraperitoneal injection. You ought probably to kill the bacteria before you inject them in order to rule out the possibility that the bacteria may multiply to some extent in the peritoneal cavity.

I am assuming that the toxicity is due to heat stable components within the bacterial cell. This is true of the toxicity of all the gram-negatives I have ever worked with, including the enteric bacilli, as well as the gonococcus and meningococcus. I should expect that you would be able to pasteurize your cultures without destroying their toxicity.

We enjoyed your visit very much. I hope you can come to see us soon again.

With warm personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

  
C. Phillip Miller, M.D.

CPM/am

Dr. Joshua Lederberg  
Associate Professor of Genetics  
Department of Genetics  
The University of Wisconsin  
Madison 6, Wisconsin